



THE DNR MISSION

The Department of Natural Resources preserves, protects, enhances and restores Maryland's natural resources for the wise use and enjoyment of all citizens.

THE NRP MISSION

The Maryland Natural Resources Police serve as a public safety agency with statewide authority to enforce conservation, boating, and criminal laws, as well as to provide primary law enforcement services for Maryland's state parks, state forests, and public lands owned and managed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The agency is also responsible for maritime and rural search and rescue, and is designated as the state's lead agency for homeland security on Maryland waters; and in all of its operations and activities strives to provide superior service to all of Maryland's citizens and visitors who enjoy the state's natural resources.



Maryland Natural Resources Police SFAC Meeting Tawes State Office Building Report Period: June 29th until Oct 1st, 2012

General Tidal Fish

Recreational:

SO, AA, QA, WO, DO, WI—Officers in all of these locations have found unprecedented numbers of undersized red drum and undersize croakers for the months of July, August, and September. Violators were issued citations in most cases. Due to higher salinity in the bay, we also noted more flounder violations (possession of undersize fish) in areas where flounder are not normally caught.

Commercial: No notable cases during this quarter

***In 2012 341 citations were written for fishing violations compared to only 159 in 2011*

Striped Bass

Recreational:

AA, QA, BA—August—Officers found several cases involving possession of a large number (20+) of undersize striped bass

Commercial:

QA—A commercial seafood vendor was cited for commercial striped bass violations. 2 citations were issued and 310 pounds of fish were seized

In September our officers in QA County were called to investigate an abandoned gill net that appeared to have been from our 2011 cases. No fish were in the net.

HO—July—6 citations for undersized striped bass were issued at Jessup Seafood Market.

September--A vendor at Jessup Seafood Market was cited for 4 undersized striped bass.

Oysters & Clams

Recreational:

WO—JEA officers cited a non-resident for harvesting oysters recreationally out-of-season. Warnings were issued for undersize oysters and for harvesting recreationally in MD.

Commercial:

QA—In late September, a commercial waterman was cited for harvesting oysters before the season began.

Crabs

Recreational: No notable cases

Commercial:

AA

- August--A commercial crabber was cited for 61 undersize hard crabs (Must appear) and 29 in another bushel.
- During the last week of August, Area 3 officers cited several commercial crabbers for crabbing violations including pots set in restricted area, crabbing during restricted times, undersize crabs and failure to separate female crabs from hard crabs.
- A recreational crabber in Cape St. Claire was cited for selling crabs
- A roadside vendor was cited for possession of 119 undersized hard crabs.

WO—August--2 citations were issued for possession of undersize crabs by a commercial crabber.

SO—August—2 citations were issued for possession of undersize crabs by commercial crabbers.

TA—July--2 citations and 7 warnings were issued to individuals crabbing commercially without a license.

—August—Commercial waterman was cited for undersize crabs and possession of over-the-limit of mature female crabs.

-- September—an officer issued a citation for crabbing without a commercial license and returned 10 bushels of crabs to the water.

KE—6 citations were issued for unlicensed harvest and sale of hard crabs. 6 bushels of crabs were seized.

*Throughout the state, only **103** crabbing citations were issued so far this year, compared to **215** citations for the same time period last year. **58** of the **103** citations were for undersize crabs while we found **106** tickets for undersize crabs written in 2011.*

Non Tidal

Recreational: No notable cases

Commercial: No notable cases